

Codebook for "Agency independence, campaign contributions, and favouritism in US federal government contracting"

Note: in all files, missing data is reported by NA.

contracts.csv

This dataset contains contract-level data from 2004 to 2015. Unless otherwise specified, data are constructed from <https://usaspending.gov>. Please refer to the manuscript for additional details about data construction.

Variable	Description
pduns	unique firm identifier: Dun & Bradstreet number of the "parent firm" as identified in the contracting data, merged as described in the manuscript
ID	unique contract identifier, alphanumeric
dollarsobligati	contract value
signeddate	date of contract signature
productorserv	purchased item product or service code (PSRC)
contractingoff	unique identifier of the contracting office
contractingoff	unique identifier of the agency of the contracting office
state_code	state in which the contract was performed
year	year of contract signature
D_pres	binary variable = 1 if POTUS was a Democrat when the contract was signed, 0 otherwise
current_R_do	amount donated by the parent company to the Republican party during the current congressional term; source: https://data.stanford.edu/dime
current_D_do	amount donated by the parent company to the Democratic party during the current congressional term; source: https://data.stanford.edu/dime
agency_name	name of the agency of the contracting office
singleb	binary variable = 1 if the contract had a single bidder, 0 otherwise
nocft	binary variable = 1 if no call for tender was published, on FedBizOpps 0 otherwise
corr_proc	binary variable = 1 if a non-competitive procedure was used, 0 otherwise
corr_solic	binary variable = 1 if a non-open solicitation procedure was used, 0 otherwise
tax_haven	binary variable = 1 if the parent company is registered in a tax haven, 0 otherwise; source: https://cthi.taxjustice.net/en/
disbarred	binary variable = 1 if the firm is observed in the list of debarred firms of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Program; source: https://sam.gov/content/exclusions
modAB_binar	binary variable = 1 if the contract has been modified once or more with code A or B, 0 otherwise
contract_type	categorical variable for contract type as defined in Federal Acquisition Rules (FAR), Part 16
contract_actic	binary variable = 1 if procurement was run by the General Services Administration (GSA), 0 otherwise
commercial_p	binary variable = 1 if the contract is purchasing a commercial item
agency_cat2	categorical variable for agency category (4 categories: cabinet/exec. dep. (not bureau); cabinet/exec. dep. and bureau; indep. agency; indep. commission & IRC)

validation.csv

This dataset compiles a series of state-level indicators of corruption. It aggregates data from several sources detailed below.

Variable	Description
state_code	US state 2-letters ISO code
gallup	GALLUP perception of corruption surveys (2006-2014), aggregated at the state level
cia_ill_ex	Corruption in American States Survey of reporters, illegal corruption index
cia_le_ex	Corruption in American States Survey of reporters, legal corruption index
bl_q6_score	Boylan & Long (2003) State House perception of corruption survey, average perceived state ranking
bl_sc_score	Boylan & Long (2003) State House perception of corruption survey, corruption index